Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A process for the production of hydrogen cyanide by the BMA process, comprising wherein an aliphatic hydrocarbon with from 1 to 4 carbon atoms is reacted with ammonia in the presence of a platinum-containing catalyst at 1000°C to 1350°C and hydrogen cyanide is separated ~~out of~~ from the reaction gas formed-and wherein the platinum of the catalyst is doped with at least one element from the group consisting of copper, silver, gold, palladium and tungsten, the quantity of copper and palladium being not more than 30 mole %, based on platinum.

10. (New) The process of claim 9, wherein said platinum is doped with 0.01 to 50 mole %of an element from the group consisting of silver, gold and tungsten.

11. (New) according to The process of claim 9, wherein said catalyst additionally comprises aluminum or magnesium in elemental or nitride form.

12. (New) The process of claim 11, wherein said catalyst comprises aluminum oxide.

13. (New) The process of claim 9, wherein said catalyst comprises a support material consisting of an oxide or nitride ceramic material.

14. (New) The process of claim 13, wherein said support material is aluminum oxide.

15. (New) The process of claim 9, wherein said catalyst comprises a coating on a shaped article consisting essentially of aluminum oxide, said coating being fixed on said shaped article by an oxide or silicate adhesive, wherein said coating comprises as its main components: platinum, doped with gold and/or silver; and aluminum in the form of aluminum nitride and/or a platinum-aluminum alloy.

16. (New) The process of claim 15, wherein said shaped article is a reaction tube and said coating is fixed on the inside of said reaction tube.

17. (New) The process of claim 9, wherein said catalyst is prepared by the steps comprising

a) applying a suspension comprising particulate elemental platinum; particulate aluminum or aluminum nitride; at least one particulate doping agent selected from the group consisting of copper, silver, gold, tungsten, palladium and compounds of these elements; a precursor of an oxide or silicate adhesive; and a carrier liquid onto a shaped article consisting essentially of aluminum oxide,

b) evaporating the carrier liquid and

c) heating the shaped article coated in this way to a temperature of from 1000°C to 1350°C

and wherein the atomic ratio of Pt to Al is from 0.01 to 10 and the molar ratio of Pt to doping elements is at least 1 : 0.001.

18. (New) A catalyst for the production of hydrogen cyanide by the process of claim 9, comprising platinum; at least one doping element from the group consisting of copper, silver, gold, tungsten and palladium; and aluminum in the form of aluminum nitride and/or a platinum-aluminum alloy, wherein the content of Pd and Cu is up to 20 mol-% based on Pt.

19. (New) The catalyst of claim 18, comprising said platinum, at least one doping element and aluminum in a coating adhering firmly, by means of an oxide or silicate adhesive, on a shaped article consisting of an oxide or nitride ceramic material.

20. (New) The catalyst of claim 19, wherein said shaped article consists of aluminum oxide.